

V. United States

V-1 Pry, Mark E. "‘EVERYBODY TALKS WHEELS’: The 1890s Bicycle Craze in Phoenix," *Journal of Arizona History*, 31, No. 1 (Spring 1990), 1-18.

After a visit by two cross-country bicycle tourists in 1893 the biking craze struck Phoenix. The Valley Cycle Club built a quarter-mile track, sponsored races, and encouraged social events for enthusiasts. Despite poor road conditions and the expense of the equipment which meant that only the middle and upper class could participate, there existed almost one bicycle for every two people in the town by 1900. After this the bicycles gave up popularity to the automobile. Based upon newspapers and secondary sources; 5 photos; 39 notes.

—David McComb

V-2 Adelman, Melvin. "Neglected Sports in American History: The Rise of Billiards in New York City, 1850-1871," *Canadian Journal of History of Sport*, 12, No. 2 (December 1981), 1-28.

Between 1850 and 1871, billiards emerged as a popular participation and spectator sport in New York City, a city with more poolrooms than any other, and the home of Michael Phelan, the major figure in the sport at that time. Billiards was initially associated with the upper class and played in private homes, but by 1850, had moved from the wealthy class to the more disreputable segment of society, because of associations with gambling and idleness. Billiards developed as a popular sport at a time when bowling was in decline, and became connected with the "bachelor subculture." Criticisms of gambling was the essential reason for the continued objection to billiards, but it continued to remain one of the major sports of the masses. Unlike many other sports, it did not suffer during the Civil War years, and professionals earned large amounts of money. Based on primary and secondary works; 82 notes.

—Barbara Schrodtt

V-3 Pickering, James H. "Tragedy on Longs Peak: Walter Kiener's Own Story," *Colorado Heritage*, No. 1 (1990), 18-31.

In 1925 Agnes Wolcott Vaille and Walter Kiener of the Colorado Mountain Club became the first to successfully scale the east face of Longs Peak in winter. During the descent Vaille fell and Kiener went for help. By the time he returned she had frozen to death. One of the rescuers also died and Kiener suffered frostbite on his hands and feet.

This article provides Kiener's hitherto unpublished account of the event. Based upon primary and secondary sources; 9 photos; a note on sources.

—David McComb

- V-4 Calder, Williams. "Man and the Mountain Lion in the Early 1900s: Perspectives from a Wildcat Dump," *Journal of the Southwest*, 32, No. 2 (Summer 1990), 150-172.

A "wildcat dump" is an unauthorized deposit of garbage. From several of these near Tucson the author scavanged the 1929-1957 letters of Dr. William S. Lackner, a dentist and ranch owner in the area. For sport and predator control Lackner hunted mountain lions and bobcats with dogs and horses. The letters outline his enthusiasm for the sport and his service as a guide for others. Based on primary and secondary sources; 3 photos; a reference list of secondary sources.

—David McComb

- V-5 Rabinowitz, Bill. "Baseball and the Great Depression," *Baseball History*, (Westport, CT: Meckler Books, 1989), 49-59.

Baseball, like American business and industry in general, was severely affected by the Depression. Severe drops in revenues due to declining fan attendance necessitated personnel cuts, salary reductions, and other cost-cutting measures. Tough economic times forced traditionalist owners to examine and institute such innovations as a standardized baseball, night games, stadium loudspeakers, and the All-Star Game. While the Depression hit baseball later than most American business, its effect was no less profound. Based on primary and secondary sources; 48 notes; 2 photographs.

—Jim Olson

- V-6 Society for American Baseball Research, *The National Pastime-Special Pictorial Issue: The Big-Bang Era*. Manhattan, Kansas: Ag Press, 1989.

This special pictorial issue, the third in a series, chronicles "the Big-Bang Era" of baseball, 1920-1946. Over 240 rare photographs with written text serve to document the era during which most of baseball's greatest hitting feats were recorded. This photographic retrospect offers images of players, teams, events, and artifacts as well as an historical insight into the game of baseball from the Roaring '20s through World war II.

—Jim Olson